



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 4, 2019

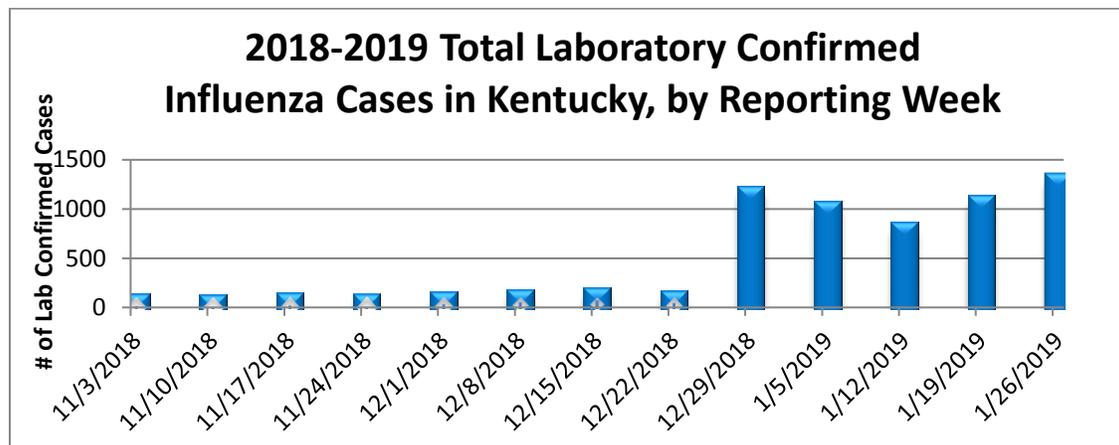
UK Implements Hospital Visitation Restrictions Due to Flu

(LEX 18) — UK HealthCare has temporarily amended its inpatient hospital visitation policy beginning Monday to be proactive in helping protect the health and well-being of patients and health care workers during this flu season. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is currently reporting flu is widespread in Kentucky. Although the number of flu cases is lower than last year at this time, UK HealthCare is seeing an increase in the number of patients with influenza-like symptoms. As of last week, UK HealthCare reported 194 lab-confirmed influenza cases so far this flu season, including 96 in the past week.

To help prevent the spread of flu, UK HealthCare has implemented the following measures:

- No visitors under the age of 12 (except in Bone Marrow Transplant where no visitors under the age of 18 are permitted).
- No visitors with any symptoms of flu-like illness.
- Only two visitors will be permitted in a patient’s room at one time.
- Visitors may be issued masks or other protective clothing for use when visiting.
- Additional restrictions may be in place in special care units such as women’s and children’s units, critical care and oncology units.
- Compassionate visitation exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Full story: <https://lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/2019/02/04/uk-healthcare-implements-hospital-visitation-restrictions-due-to-flu/>



Learn more for Kentucky:

<https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/idb/Seasonal%20Influenza/KY%20Influenza%20Activity%20Report%202018-2019%20Week%2004-%20Final.pdf>

Public Health Hosts Tickborne Disease Prevention Poster Contest

(Feb. 4, 2019) The Department for Public Health (DPH) is inviting school-age children across the Commonwealth to create and submit original artwork for a chance to win cash prizes in a tickborne disease prevention poster contest sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department.

See the full press release attached.

Opioids: The Revival Refusal

([EMS World - February](#)) by Mitchell D. Maulfair, DO, Alexis S. Dressler, BS -Complications can arise when patients decline further care after receiving naloxone for opioid toxicity. The difficult question facing the paramedic is to decide when their patient has the autonomy to refuse care. A few studies have evaluated the outcomes of patients who refused transport to the hospital after revival with naloxone, but the compilation of follow-up data for these patients is problematic. Full article: <https://www.emsworld.com/article/1222060/revival-refusal>

North Korea's Less-Known Military Threat: *Biological Weapons*

(NY Times) According to an analysis issued by the Middlebury Institute of International Studies at Monterey last month, North Korea is collaborating with foreign researchers to learn biotechnology skills and build machinery. As a result, the country's capabilities are increasing rapidly.

"North Korea is far more likely to use biological weapons than nuclear ones," said Andrew C. Weber, a Pentagon official in charge of nuclear, chemical and biological defense programs under President Obama. "The program is advanced, underestimated and highly lethal."

The North's great secrecy makes it hard to assess the threat and the country's degree of sophistication. Today, the North might well have no bioweapons at all — just research, prototypes, human testing, and the ability to rush into industrial production.

South Korean military white papers [have identified](#) at least ten facilities in the North that could be involved in the research and production of more than a dozen biological agents, including those that cause the plague and hemorrhagic fevers.

Read full NY Times story: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/01/15/science/north-korea-biological-weapons.html>

Journal Watch: EMS Deaths by Suicide

([EMS World - February](#)) - Reviewed this month: Research shows EMS has a higher rate of suicide than the general population. In 2016 the NAEMT published results from a survey indicating that, compared to the general public, EMS professionals had a tenfold higher rate of suicidal thoughts and attempts.

Full story: <https://www.emsworld.com/article/1222075/journal-watch-ems-deaths-suicide>

FBI: Las Vegas gunman sought infamy, influenced by father's memory

(Las Vegas Review-Journal) Jan 29, 2019 - A panel of experts with access to troves of evidence failed to determine why a gunman carried out the Route 91 Harvest festival attack, the FBI announced Tuesday.

The revelation smothered what many survivors saw as the last chance to better understand why the worst mass shooting in modern American history unfolded at a country music festival on the Strip.

In a *three-page summary report*, the agency also reiterated that gunman Stephen Paddock, 64, acted alone. A spokeswoman for the Las Vegas FBI said Tuesday no other reports related to the investigation will be released.

Key findings of the FBI report by the numbers

1. The attack was not directed or inspired by ideologically motivated groups.
2. There was no single or clear motivating factor behind the attack.
3. Investigators found no manifesto, video or suicide note.
4. Stephen Paddock's intention to die by suicide was compounded by his desire for infamy.
5. Paddock's decision to murder people while they were being entertained was consistent with his personality.
6. Investigators found no indication that the attack was motivated by a grievance.
7. Paddock devoted time, attention and energy to the shooting.
8. He took steps to ensure that he could kill himself at a time and in a manner of his choosing.
9. He maintained interpersonal relationships and was not completely isolated.
10. He was, in many ways, similar to other active shooters the FBI has studied.

Full story: <https://www.reviewjournal.com/crime/shootings/fbi-las-vegas-gunman-sought-infamy-influenced-by-fathers-memory-1584677/>

Your Mailbox Could Be Opened Up To Private Carriers

(NPR) By law, only you and the U.S. Postal Service are allowed to put things in your mailbox. But what if companies like FedEx and UPS could do it too? That could happen under a recommendation by the Trump administration. A White House task force [said in December](#) that USPS should "explore franchising the mailbox as a means of generating revenue." Read more: <https://www.npr.org/676132856>

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of [Emergency Preparedness Updates available here](#). If you would like to added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact rbartlett@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.



Commonwealth of Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services

Public Health Hosts Tickborne Disease Prevention Poster Contest

(Feb. 4, 2019) - The Department for Public Health (DPH) is inviting school-age children across the Commonwealth to create and submit original artwork for a chance to win cash prizes in a tickborne disease prevention poster contest sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department.

“I am excited to announce this poster contest spotlighting tickborne disease because this is a serious health problem facing Kentucky families,” said Jeff Howard, M.D., commissioner of DPH. “I encourage all students to participate in this poster contest on tick bite prevention and I am looking forward to seeing how our students address this important topic creatively with their posters. I also would like to thank the Northern Kentucky Health Department for sponsoring this poster contest.”

Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade may submit a poster encouraging tick bite prevention during outdoor activities. Posters must include at least one of the following prevention methods:

- Be aware of ticks when in or near wooded and brushy areas
- Check yourself for ticks at least once a day
- Remove ticks as soon as possible
- Use an EPA-approved repellent (DEET, permethrin, picardin or lemon eucalyptus)

First (\$100), second (\$75) and third (\$50) place winners will receive Visa gift cards. A winner from each grade will also be selected and awarded a \$25 gift card. A drawing will be held including all participants and two names will be chosen awarding them both \$25 gifts cards. The winners' posters will be recognized at the annual Kentucky Public Health Association (KPHA) conference on April 10-12, 2019. Winners will be contacted via email or phone on or before March 25th, 2019 and will be posted on our website by March 29th, 2019.

Entries will be judged on creativity, poster theme, creative use and originality. Submissions for the poster can include any of the following: crayon, marker, watercolor, tempera, acrylic, collage or original photograph. Poster size should be 8.5" x 11". Submissions will be accepted from any Kentucky resident students in grades Kindergarten through 8th. Each submitter may only submit one original poster. DPH reserves the right to disqualify any entry for any reason. All posters become the property of DPH and may be used in future disease prevention campaigns. ***Child name, grade, teacher, school and teacher contact information (address, phone and email) must be included on the back of the artwork.***

Submissions will be accepted from February 4 to March 15, 2019. Entries must be postmarked by March 15th, 2019 and mailed to Tori Amburgey (Poster Contest), Kentucky Department for Public Health, 275 E. Main Street, Division of Epidemiology and Health Planning HS2E, Frankfort, KY 40621. A completed entry form must be taped or glued to the back of each entry. Submission can also be scanned and emailed to Tori.Amburgey@ky.gov

For more information and submission form, go to <https://chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dph/dehp/idb/Pages/tick-borne.aspx> and click on “2019 Tickborne Disease Prevention Poster Contest Entry Form” or contact Tori Amburgey, Poster Contest Coordinator, at (502) 564-4478, Ext. 4270 or Tori.Amburgey@ky.gov.

For additional information on tickborne disease in Kentucky, go to <https://ky-dph.maps.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=5e1d359ccb149989186585cf9f41bf1>.